

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 20, 2008**

## **Sage Grouse conference to be held in Lander**

Wyoming ranchers have the opportunity to learn about managing sage grouse and their habitat at an upcoming conference in Lander.

The 2008 Wyoming Sage Grouse conference will be held March 18 and 19 at the Inn at Lander/Best Western Hotel.

The conference is geared toward agriculture producers, wildlife habitat managers and others who are interested in sage grouse preservation. Participants will be informed about the current status of the sage grouse, and learn about management projects, funding sources for projects, and other ideas for managing private lands to benefit both agriculture and wildlife.

Specific topics include:

- Updates from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Wyoming Game and Fish Department
- The Sage Grouse Implementation Team's 21 recommendations for sage grouse management
- Implementation of conservation easements on agricultural lands
- Candidate conservation agreements
- Range monitoring
- Project funding opportunities available through different organizations
- Implementation of projects/reports on previously funded projects

The conference will begin at 8:30 a.m. both days, and is scheduled to adjourn at 5 p.m. on March 18 and noon on March 19. Lunch will be provided on March 18. Pre-registration is encouraged. The registration fee for the conference is \$25. An additional fee of \$10 will be charged for registrations received after March 3. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Inn at Lander. To receive the reduced rate of \$70 plus tax per night, call (307) 332-2847 before March 3.

For a complete agenda or more information, please contact the Wyoming Department of Agriculture at (307) 777-7321. A link to forum information is also available on the WDA website at <http://agriculture.wy.gov>.

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